

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4753

To improve certain compensation, health care, and education benefits for individuals who serve on active duty in a reserve component of the uniformed services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 25, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Washington introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Government Reform and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To improve certain compensation, health care, and education benefits for individuals who serve on active duty in a reserve component of the uniformed services, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Enhancing America’s Guard and Reserve Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—COMPENSATION MATTERS

Sec. 101. Nonreduction in pay while Federal employee is serving on active duty in a reserve component of the uniformed services.

Sec. 102. Assistance for State and local governments that continue to pay employees who serve on active duty in a reserve component of the uniformed services.

Sec. 103. Active-duty reserve component employee credit added to general business credit.

Sec. 104. Eligibility for retired pay for non-regular service.

TITLE II—HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION MATTERS

Sec. 201. Permanent authority for certain TRICARE benefits for Reserves.

Sec. 202. Increase in amount of basic educational assistance under the Montgomery GI Bill for members of reserve components; indexing payment amounts to higher education costs.

Sec. 203. Prohibition on denial of benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill for members of reserve components in conjunction with calls to active duty.

TITLE III—COMMUTING MATTERS

Sec. 301. Limited use of telecommuting to satisfy inactive-duty training prescribed or authorized for members of reserve components.

Sec. 302. Priority for space-available travel for members of reserve components.

TITLE I—COMPENSATION MATTERS

SEC. 101. NONREDUCTION IN PAY WHILE FEDERAL EMPLOYEE IS SERVING ON ACTIVE DUTY IN A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter IV of chapter 55 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 5538. Nonreduction in pay while serving on active duty in a reserve component

“(a) An employee who is also a member of a reserve component and is absent from a position of employment

1 with the Federal Government under a call or order to
2 serve on active duty for a period of more than 30 days
3 shall be entitled to receive, for each pay period described
4 in subsection (b), an amount equal to the difference (if
5 any) between—

6 “(1) the amount of civilian basic pay that would
7 otherwise have been payable to the employee for
8 such pay period if the employee’s civilian employ-
9 ment with the Government had not been interrupted
10 by the service on active duty; and

11 “(2) the amount of military compensation that
12 is payable to the employee for the service on active
13 duty and is allocable to such pay period.

14 “(b)(1) Amounts under this section shall be payable
15 with respect to each pay period (which would otherwise
16 apply if the employee’s civilian employment had not been
17 interrupted) that occurs—

18 “(A) while the employee serves on active duty
19 for a period of more than 30 days;

20 “(B) while the employee is hospitalized for, or
21 convalescing from, an illness or injury incurred in,
22 or aggravated during, the performance of such active
23 duty; or

1 “(C) during the 14-day period beginning at the
2 end of such active duty or the end of the period re-
3 ferred to in subparagraph (B).

4 “(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to
5 a pay period for which the employee receives civilian basic
6 pay (including by taking any annual, military, or other
7 paid leave) to which the employee is entitled by virtue of
8 the employee’s civilian employment with the Government.

9 “(c) Any amount payable under this section to an em-
10 ployee shall be paid—

11 “(1) by employing agency of the employee;

12 “(2) from the appropriations or fund that
13 would be used to pay the employee if the employee
14 were in a pay status; and

15 “(3) to the extent practicable, at the same time
16 and in the same manner as would civilian basic pay
17 if the employee’s civilian employment had not been
18 interrupted.

19 “(d) In consultation with Secretary of Defense, the
20 Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe such reg-
21 ulations as may be necessary to carry out this section.

22 “(e)(1) In consultation with the Office, the head of
23 each agency referred to in section 2302(a)(2)(C)(ii) of this
24 title shall prescribe procedures to ensure that the rights
25 under this section apply to the employees of such agency.

1 “(2) The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Ad-
2 ministration shall, in consultation with the Office, pre-
3 scribe procedures to ensure that the rights under this sec-
4 tion apply to the employees of that agency.

5 “(f) In this section:

6 “(1) The terms ‘active duty for a period of
7 more than 30 days’, ‘member’, and ‘reserve compo-
8 nent’ have the meanings given such terms in section
9 101 of title 37.

10 “(2) The term ‘civilian basic pay’ includes any
11 amount payable under section 5304 of this title.

12 “(3) The term ‘employing agency’, as used with
13 respect to an employee entitled to any payments
14 under this section, means the agency or other entity
15 of the Government (including an agency referred to
16 in section 2302(a)(2)(C)(ii) of this title) with respect
17 to which the employee has reemployment rights
18 under chapter 43 of title 38.

19 “(4) The term ‘military compensation’ has the
20 meaning given the term ‘pay’ in section 101(21) of
21 title 37.”.

22 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
23 at the beginning of chapter 55 of title 5, United States
24 Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to
25 section 5537 the following new item:

“5538. Nonreduction in pay while serving on active duty in a reserve component.”.

1 (c) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENT.—Section 5538 of
 2 title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a),
 3 shall apply with respect to pay periods (as described in
 4 subsection (b) of such section) beginning on or after the
 5 date of the enactment of this Act.

6 **SEC. 102. ASSISTANCE FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERN-**
 7 **MENTS THAT CONTINUE TO PAY EMPLOYEES**
 8 **WHO SERVE ON ACTIVE DUTY IN A RESERVE**
 9 **COMPONENT OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 17 of title 37, United
 11 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 12 lowing new section:

13 **“§ 910. Assistance for State and local governments**
 14 **that continue to pay employees who**
 15 **serve on active duty**

16 “(a) CONTINUATION OF CIVILIAN BASIC PAY.—It is
 17 the purpose of this section to encourage States and local
 18 governments to continue to pay a portion of the civilian
 19 compensation of those employees who are also members
 20 of a reserve component and are absent from a position
 21 of employment with the State or local government under
 22 a call or order to serve on active duty for a period of more
 23 than 30 days so that the employees receive compensation

1 in an amount that, when taken together with their military
2 pay, is at least equal to their civilian compensation.

3 “(b) REIMBURSEMENT OFFERED.—(1) At the re-
4 quest of a State or local government that continues to pay
5 all or a portion of the civilian compensation of an employee
6 described in subsection (a), the Secretary concerned shall
7 reimburse the State or local government for 50 percent
8 of the civilian compensation paid by the State or local gov-
9 ernment for each pay period described in subsection (c),
10 but not to exceed 50 percent of the difference (if any) be-
11 tween—

12 “(A) the amount of civilian compensation that
13 would otherwise have been payable to the employee
14 for such pay period if the employee’s civilian employ-
15 ment with the State or local government had not
16 been interrupted by the service on active duty; and

17 “(B) the amount of military pay that is payable
18 to the employee for the service on active duty and
19 is allocable to such pay period.

20 “(2) If the pay periods described in subsection (c)
21 extend more than nine consecutive months after the first
22 day of the first month during which the employee began
23 to serve on active duty for a period of more than 30 days,
24 the reimbursement rate shall become 100 percent for the
25 subsequent payments. However, as is the case under para-

1 graph (1), reimbursement shall be provided only for the
2 difference (if any) between—

3 “(A) the amount of civilian compensation that
4 would otherwise have been payable to the employee
5 for such pay period if the employee’s civilian employ-
6 ment with the State or local government had not
7 been interrupted by the service on active duty; and

8 “(B) the amount of military pay that is payable
9 to the employee for the service on active duty and
10 is allocable to such pay period.

11 “(c) PAY PERIODS.—Reimbursement shall be pro-
12 vided under this section with respect to each pay period
13 (which would otherwise apply if the employee’s civilian em-
14 ployment had not been interrupted) that occurs—

15 “(1) while the employee serves on active duty
16 for a period of more than 30 days;

17 “(2) while the employee is hospitalized for, or
18 convalescing from, an illness or injury incurred in,
19 or aggravated during, the performance of such active
20 duty; or

21 “(3) during the 14-day period beginning at the
22 end of such active duty or the end of the period re-
23 ferred to in subparagraph (B).

24 “(d) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO RETURN TO EMPLOY-
25 MENT.—(1) If an employee described in subsection (a),

1 with respect to whom reimbursement is provided to a
2 State or local government under this section, fails to re-
3 port or apply for employment or reemployment with the
4 State or local government by the end of the period referred
5 to in subsection (c)(3), the employee shall refund to the
6 Secretary concerned the total amount of the reimburse-
7 ment provided with respect to the employee.

8 “(2) Subject to paragraph (3), an obligation to re-
9 fund moneys to the United States imposed under para-
10 graph (1) is for all purposes a debt owed to the United
11 States.

12 “(3) The Secretary concerned may waive, in whole
13 or in part, a refund required under paragraph (1) if the
14 Secretary concerned determines that recovery would be
15 against equity and good conscience or would be contrary
16 to the best interests of the United States.

17 “(4) A discharge in bankruptcy under title 11 that
18 is entered less than five years after the end of the period
19 referred to in subsection (c)(3) does not discharge the em-
20 ployee from a debt arising under paragraph (1). This
21 paragraph applies to any case commenced under title 11
22 after the date of the enactment of this section.

23 “(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretaries concerned shall
24 prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

25 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 “(1) The term ‘civilian compensation’ means
2 the wages or salary that an employee of a State or
3 local government normally receives from the employ-
4 ee’s employment by the State or local government.

5 “(2) The term ‘local government’ means an
6 agency or political subdivision of a State.

7 “(3) The term ‘military pay’ has the meaning
8 given the term ‘pay’ in section 101(21) of this title.

9 “(4) The term ‘State’ means each of the several
10 States of the United States, the District of Colum-
11 bia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the
12 Virgin Islands, and other territories or possessions
13 of the United States.”.

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
15 at the beginning of chapter 17 of title 37, United States
16 Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to
17 section 909 the following new item:

 “910. Assistance for State and local governments that continue to pay employ-
 ees who serve on active duty.”.

18 (c) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENT.—Section 910 of
19 title 37, United States Code, as added by subsection (a),
20 shall apply with respect to pay periods (as described in
21 subsection (b) of such section) beginning on or after the
22 date of the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 103. ACTIVE-DUTY RESERVE COMPONENT EMPLOYEE**
2 **CREDIT ADDED TO GENERAL BUSINESS**
3 **CREDIT.**

4 (a) ADDITION OF CREDIT.—Subpart D of part IV of
5 subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code
6 of 1986 (relating to business-related credits) is amended
7 by adding at the end the following new section:

8 **“SEC. 45G. ACTIVE-DUTY RESERVE COMPONENT EMPLOYEE**
9 **CREDIT.**

10 “(a) GENERAL RULE.—For purposes of section 38,
11 in the case of an employer, the active-duty reserve compo-
12 nent employee credit determined under this section for the
13 taxable year is an amount equal to 50 percent of the com-
14 pensation paid by the employer to an employee who is also
15 a member of a reserve component during the taxable year
16 when the employee was absent from employment for a rea-
17 son described in subsection (b), but not to exceed 50 per-
18 cent of the difference (if any) between—

19 “(1) the amount of compensation that would
20 otherwise have been payable to the employee during
21 such absence if the employee’s employment with the
22 employer had not been interrupted by the employee’s
23 absence; and

24 “(2) the amount of military pay that is payable
25 to the employee during the absence.

1 “(b) COVERED PAY PERIODS.—Subsection (a) shall
2 apply with respect to an employee who is also a member
3 of a reserve component—

4 “(1) while the employee serves on active duty
5 for a period of more than 30 days;

6 “(2) while the employee is hospitalized for, or
7 convalescing from, an illness or injury incurred in,
8 or aggravated during, the performance of such active
9 duty; or

10 “(3) during the 14-day period beginning at the
11 end of such active duty or the end of the period re-
12 ferred to in subparagraph (B).

13 “(c) LIMITATION.—No credit shall be allowed under
14 subsection (a) with respect to an employee on any day on
15 which the employee was not scheduled to work (for a rea-
16 son other than such service on active duty) and ordinarily
17 would not have worked.

18 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

19 “(1) The terms ‘active duty for a period of
20 more than 30 days’, ‘member’, and ‘reserve compo-
21 nent’ have the meanings given such terms in section
22 101 of title 37, United States Code.

23 “(2) The term ‘compensation’ means any remu-
24 neration for employment, whether in cash or in kind,
25 which is paid or incurred by a taxpayer and which

1 is deductible from the taxpayer's gross income under
2 section 162(a)(1).”.

3 (b) CREDIT TO BE PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS
4 CREDIT.—Subsection (b) of section 38 of such Code (re-
5 lating to general business credit) is amended by striking
6 “plus” at the end of paragraph (14), by striking the period
7 at the end of paragraph (15) and inserting “, plus”, and
8 by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

9 “(16) the active-duty reserve component em-
10 ployee credit determined under section 45G(a).”.

11 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
12 tions for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter
13 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by
14 inserting after the item relating to section 45F the fol-
15 lowing new item:

“45G. Active-duty reserve component employee credit.”.

16 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
17 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
18 December 31, 2001.

19 **SEC. 104. ELIGIBILITY FOR RETIRED PAY FOR NON-REG-**
20 **ULAR SERVICE.**

21 (a) AGE AND SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—Subsection
22 (a) of section 12731 of title 10, United States Code, is
23 amended to read as follows:

1 “(a)(1) Except as provided in subsection (c), a person
2 is entitled, upon application, to retired pay computed
3 under section 12739 of this title, if the person—

4 “(A) satisfies one of the combinations of re-
5 quirements for minimum age and minimum number
6 of years of service (computed under section 12732 of
7 this title) that are specified in the table in para-
8 graph (2);

9 “(B) performed the last six years of qualifying
10 service while a member of any category named in
11 section 12732(a)(1) of this title, but not while a
12 member of a regular component, the Fleet Reserve,
13 or the Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, except that in
14 the case of a person who completed 20 years of serv-
15 ice computed under section 12732 of this title before
16 October 5, 1994, the number of years of qualifying
17 service under this subparagraph shall be eight; and

18 “(C) is not entitled, under any other provision
19 of law, to retired pay from an armed force or re-
20 tainer pay as a member of the Fleet Reserve or the
21 Fleet Marine Corps Reserve.

22 “(2) The combinations of minimum age and min-
23 imum years of service required of a person under subpara-
24 graph (A) of paragraph (1) for entitlement to retired pay
25 as provided in such paragraph are as follows:

“If the person’s age, in years, is at least:	The minimum years of service required is
49	31
50	30
51	29
52	28
53	27
54	26
55	25
56	24
57	23
58	22
59	21
60	20”.

1 (b) 20-YEAR LETTER.—Subsection (d) of such sec-
2 tion is amended by striking “the years of service required
3 for eligibility for retired pay under this chapter” in the
4 first sentence and inserting “20 years of service computed
5 under section 12732 of this title”.

6 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
7 subsection (a) shall take effect on the first day of the first
8 month beginning on or after the date of the enactment
9 of this Act and shall apply with respect to retired pay pay-
10 able for that month and subsequent months.

11 **TITLE II—HEALTH CARE AND** 12 **EDUCATION MATTERS**

13 **SEC. 201. PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN TRICARE** 14 **BENEFITS FOR RESERVES.**

15 (a) PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR COVERAGE OF
16 READY RESERVE MEMBERS UNDER TRICARE PRO-
17 GRAM.—Section 1076b of title 10, United States Code, is
18 amended by striking subsection (l).

1 (b) PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR EARLIER ELIGI-
2 BILITY DATE FOR TRICARE BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS
3 OF RESERVE COMPONENTS.—Section 1074(d) of title 10,
4 United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (3).

5 (c) PERMANENT EXTENSION OF TRANSITIONAL
6 HEALTH CARE BENEFITS.—

7 (1) Paragraph (3) of section 1145(a) of title
8 10, United States Code, is amended to read as fol-
9 lows:

10 “(3) Transitional health care for a member under
11 subsection (a) shall be available for 180 days beginning
12 on the date on which the member is separated from active
13 duty.”.

14 (2) Paragraph (3) of section 1145(a) of title
15 10, United States Code, shall apply with respect to
16 separations from active duty that take effect on or
17 after November 24, 2003.

18 (3) Section 704 of the National Defense Au-
19 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (Public Law
20 108–136; 117 Stat. 1527) and section 1117 of the
21 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for
22 Defense and for the Reconstruction of Iraq and Af-
23 ghanistan, 2004 (Public Law 108–106; 117 Stat.
24 1218) are repealed.

1 **SEC. 202. INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF BASIC EDUCATIONAL**
2 **ASSISTANCE UNDER THE MONTGOMERY GI**
3 **BILL FOR MEMBERS OF RESERVE COMPO-**
4 **NENTS; INDEXING PAYMENT AMOUNTS TO**
5 **HIGHER EDUCATION COSTS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Paragraph (1) of Section
7 16131(b) of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

8 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “\$251”
9 and inserting “\$600”;

10 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “\$188”
11 and inserting “\$450”; and

12 (C) in subparagraph (C), by striking “\$125”
13 and inserting “\$300”.

14 (2) The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall
15 take effect on October 1, 2005, and shall apply with re-
16 spect to educational assistance allowances under section
17 16131(b)(1) of such title paid for months after September
18 2005.

19 (3) In the case of an educational assistance allowance
20 under such section paid for months occurring during fiscal
21 year 2005—

22 (A) subparagraph (A) of such section shall be
23 applied by substituting “\$475” for “\$251”;

24 (B) subparagraph (B) of such section shall be
25 applied by substituting “\$325” for “\$188”; and

1 (C) subparagraph (C) of such section shall be
2 applied by substituting “\$215” for “\$125”.

3 (b) NO ADJUSTMENT FOR FISCAL YEARS 2005 AND
4 2006.—Section 16131(b)(2) of such title shall not apply
5 to rates of basic educational assistance paid under such
6 section during fiscal years 2005 and 2006.

7 (c) APPLICATION OF INDEX BASED ON HIGHER
8 EDUCATION COSTS.—(1) Section 16131(b)(2) of title 10,
9 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

10 “(2)(A) With respect to any fiscal year beginning on
11 or after October 1, 2006, the Secretary shall provide a
12 percentage increase (rounded to the nearest dollar) in the
13 rates payable under paragraph (1) equal to the percentage
14 (as determined by the Secretary) by which—

15 “(i) the average monthly costs of tuition and
16 expenses for commuter students at public institu-
17 tions of higher learning that award baccalaureate
18 degrees for purposes of paragraph (1) for the fiscal
19 year involved, exceeds

20 “(ii) such average monthly costs for the pre-
21 ceding fiscal year.

22 “(B) The Secretary shall make the determination
23 under subparagraph (A) after consultation with the Sec-
24 retary of Education.

1 “(C) A determination made under subparagraph (A)
 2 in a year shall take effect on October 1 of that year and
 3 apply with respect to basic educational assistance allow-
 4 ances payable under this section for the fiscal year begin-
 5 ning in that year.

6 “(D) Not later than September 30 each year, the Sec-
 7 retary shall publish in the Federal Register the average
 8 monthly costs of tuition and expenses as determined under
 9 subparagraph (A) in that year.”.

10 (2)(A) Section 3015(h) of title 38, United States
 11 Code, is amended by striking “by which—” and all that
 12 follows and inserting “determined by the Secretary under
 13 section 16131(b)(2) of title 10 for the fiscal year in-
 14 volved.”.

15 (B) The amendment made by subparagraph (A) shall
 16 apply to fiscal years beginning on or after October 1,
 17 2006.

18 **SEC. 203. PROHIBITION ON DENIAL OF BENEFITS UNDER**
 19 **THE MONTGOMERY GI BILL FOR MEMBERS**
 20 **OF RESERVE COMPONENTS IN CONJUNCTION**
 21 **WITH CALLS TO ACTIVE DUTY.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 16134 of title 10, United
 23 States Code, is amended—

24 (1) by striking “Educational” and inserting
 25 “(a) GENERAL RULE.—Educational”; and

1 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
2 section:

3 “(b) PROHIBITION ON TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE
4 DUE SOLELY TO CALL TO ACTIVE DUTY.—Service on ac-
5 tive duty pursuant to an order to active duty issued under
6 section 12301(a), 12301(d), 12301(g), 12302, or 12304
7 of this title alone does not constitute failure to participate
8 satisfactorily in required training as a member of the Se-
9 lected Reserve under subsection (a)(2).”.

10 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
11 subsection (a) shall apply before, on, or after the date of
12 the enactment of this Act.

13 **TITLE III—COMMUTING** 14 **MATTERS**

15 **SEC. 301. LIMITED USE OF TELECOMMUTING TO SATISFY**
16 **INACTIVE-DUTY TRAINING PRESCRIBED OR**
17 **AUTHORIZED FOR MEMBERS OF RESERVE**
18 **COMPONENTS.**

19 Section 206 of title 37, United States Code, is
20 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
21 section:

22 “(f) The Secretary concerned may authorize a mem-
23 ber of the National Guard or of a reserve component of
24 the uniformed services to use telecommuting to satisfy a
25 regular period of instruction or period of appropriate duty

1 prescribed or authorized for the member or to perform
 2 such other equivalent training, instruction, duty, or appro-
 3 priate duties as the Secretary may prescribe or authorize.
 4 Telecommuting may not account for more than 16 hours
 5 of inactive-duty training by a member in any calendar-
 6 year quarter.”.

7 **SEC. 302. PRIORITY FOR SPACE-AVAILABLE TRAVEL FOR**
 8 **MEMBERS OF RESERVE COMPONENTS.**

9 (a) PRIORITY ON SAME BASIS AS ACTIVE-DUTY
 10 MEMBERS.—(1) Chapter 1805 of title 10, United States
 11 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
 12 section:

13 **“§ 18507. Reserve component members: priority for**
 14 **space-available travel**

15 “The Secretary of Defense shall provide that mem-
 16 bers of the Selected Reserve are accorded eligibility for
 17 travel on Department of Defense aircraft on a space-avail-
 18 able basis in the same category (or with the same priority)
 19 as is accorded to members of the armed forces serving on
 20 active duty.”.

21 (2) The table of sections at the beginning of such
 22 chapter is amended by adding at the end the following
 23 new item:

“18507. Reserve component members: priority for space-available travel.”.

24 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Section 18507 of title 10,
 25 United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take

- 1 effect at the end of the 180-day period beginning on the
- 2 date of the enactment of this Act.

